

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action dated December 27, 2011. Reconsideration and allowance of the application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3-9, 11-14, 16, 17 and 19 are pending in the Application. Claims 1, 9 and 13 are independent claims.

In the Office Action, claims 1, 3-9, 11-14, 16, 17 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2005/0126007 to Aviza ("Aviza"). This rejection is respectfully traversed. It is respectfully submitted that the claims are allowable over Aviza for at least the following reasons.

It is respectfully submitted that the present recited mechanism is an improvement over any shown in Aviza. The present system as recited in the claims enables smooth raising and lowering of the guiding member (e.g., see, present application, FIGs. 2-4, member 10 see) such that every point on the member moves in tandem. This is achieved through the matching slope of the inclined surfaces 26. The claims are amended to clarify that the resilient elements are "for maintaining friction between the first and second elements". Support for this limitation is found for example in the present application, page 5, lines 5-11 and page 5, line 30 to page 6, line 7.

The Office Action admits that Aviza, while disclosing various structures fails to disclose the specific claimed structure. While Aviza is mostly concerned with screw mechanisms FIGs. 3 and 7 also show slide mechanisms. However, these embodiments do

not teach, disclose or suggest "a first element having a first inclined surface ..., a second element having a second inclined surface movably connected to the first inclined surface, wherein a force causing lateral movement of the second element enables raising and lowering of the first element", as for example recited in claim 1.

Aviza in FIG. 2 shows a member 28 having an inclined surface. However, the cam 36 has a straight surface without an incline. Further, springs in Aviza are discussed with reference to FIGs. 2, 10-12, 16A, 16B. In Aviza as shown in all the figures, the springs are used for support. Aviza does not teach, disclose, or suggest "at least two resilient elements for maintaining friction between the first and second elements for preventing lateral movement of the second element without the force".

It is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is not anticipated or made obvious by the teachings of Aviza. For example, Aviza does not teach, disclose or suggest, amongst other patentable elements, (illustrative emphasis added) "a first element having a first inclined surface, the first element and the adjustable guiding member are attached and are of substantially same size, a second element having a second inclined surface movably connected to the first inclined surface, wherein a force causing lateral movement of the second element enables raising and lowering of the first element, and at least two resilient elements for maintaining friction between the first and second elements for preventing lateral movement of the second element without the force " as recited in claim 1, and as similarly recited in claims 9 and 13.

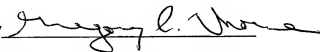
Based on the foregoing including the lack of documentary evidence to support the basis of an obviousness rejection in the Office Action on pages 3-4 which mostly discusses

the elements that Aviza lacks from the claims, the Applicants respectfully submit that the independent claims are patentable and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited. The dependent claims respectively depend from one of the independent claims and accordingly are allowable for at least this reason as well as for the separately patentable elements contained in each of the claims. Accordingly, separate consideration of each of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

In addition, Applicants deny any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicants reserve the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

Applicants have made a diligent and sincere effort to place this application in condition for immediate allowance and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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